

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc: [Stuart Andrew.MP](#)
Subject: PDE00451_Planning decisions for Rawdon
Date: 10 November 2015 11:15:37

Dear Sirs

I write to express my strong objection to the Site Allocations Plan contained in the LCC Core Strategy for development in and around Rawdon.

I do not consider the plan justified due to the lack of infrastructure within the local area. The congestion on the local roads is appalling, not just at rush hour but at all times of the day. Routes to the airport are already overstretched and will be increasingly so as the airport expands. Before any additional housing is considered, the area from Horsforth to Rawdon should have significant improvements in the road network and a rail link to the airport.

In addition, this area is already oversubscribed for schooling. As a recently retired primary school Headteacher in north west Leeds, I know at first hand the difficulties schools experience when additional pupils are 'forced' on the school because there are no other places. I also know the distress parents suffer when they struggle to gain a school place in their local area. Whilst significant new build allocates some money towards educational places allowing new schools to be built, small patches of new build do not provide enough money to expand local schools (always assuming that the local school has the capacity to expand). I struggle to see from your plans where the children living in HG2-12, HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG3-4 will be educated, unless of course you expect the parents to drive them to the new school in HG2-41, increasing the pressure on the already over congested A65.

I would also like to challenge the need for so many houses. The 2011 census and latest National Housing Federation projections indicate that 25,000 more houses are planned to be built than are needed.

Whilst I accept that there is a need for some additional housing in Leeds, I would strongly argue that the vast majority of new housing could be built without affecting greenbelt.

Under Section 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework it states that Green belt land serves to:

- check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas
- safeguard the countryside from encroachment
- preserve the setting and character of historic towns
- encourage the recycling of derelict urban land.

I fail to see how your proposals for our area have adhered to this national policy.

Once the greenbelt is lost, it can never be recovered. The wildlife habitats are lost forever. My grandchildren will never be able to experience the local habitats for deer, bats, and birdlife which are part of our locality.

Please reconsider the proposals for this area.

Sybil Parker

10 Peasehill Close

Rawdon

Leeds

LS19 6EF